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## Exhibit 7

Records' etc.) may have been processed and released to the public. If you are  
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Respectfully,

The on-off date is the date the record is released unless you have provided a

long record. If you have a long record, please contact the FOIA Request Service Center  
Case Control Number: [Number] and [Signature]

This is in response to your request dated [Date]. We have assigned

RE: [Subject]

Dear [Name],

# Affirmative asylum applications at US-CIS

Aug 5 8 2020

Washington, D.C. 20520

United States Department of State



Table 8—USCIS Form I-589 Affirmative Asylum Petition Data

[FY 2014-2018]

FY	Receipts	Approvals	Denials	Admin. close	Referrals— DOJ-EOIR	Pending pool
2014	56,912	11,841	707	1,849	15,969	46,928
2015	84,236	15,999	458	3,010	20,353	85,593
2016	115,888	10,762	138	3,785	16,564	152,516
2017	142,760	15,229	137	5,825	29,639	252,627
2018	108,031	19,978	927	9,436	52,221	314,453
5-year total	507,827	73,809	2,367	23,905	134,746	
Average	101,565	14,762	473	4,781	2	

**TABLE 3.****I-90 COMPLETIONS AND APPROVALS: FISCAL YEARS 2014-2018**

	Completions	Approvals	Approval Rate
2014	669,700	636,600	95%
2015	862,100	830,100	96%
2016	675,500	647,200	95%
2017	501,700	473,600	94%
2018	1,142,100	1,081,600	93%

Note: Totals are rounded.

Note: Approval rate based on unrounded completions and approvals.

Note: Applications adjudicated in a fiscal year may be filed in previous fiscal years.

Source: Office of Performance and Quality, USCIS

Form: I-90 Application to Replace/Renew Permanent Resident Card

**TABLE 4.****I-589, I-870 AND I-899 COMPLETIONS, AND REFUGEES ADMITTED AND INTERVIEWED: FISCAL YEARS 2014-2018**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Completions</b>					
I-589*	30,600	40,000	31,400	50,800	81,900
I-870	48,000	47,900	92,100	80,000	97,700
I-899	9,700	9,200	9,500	10,000	11,000
Refugees Admitted**	70,000	69,900	85,000	53,700	22,500
Refugee Interviews**	68,900	67,900	125,200	49,300	26,400

Note: Totals are rounded.

Note: Adjudications and interviews in a fiscal year may be filed or conducted in previous fiscal years.

Source: All USCIS Application and Petition Form Types

\*Source: National Performance Report, OPQ, USCIS

\*\*Source: Refugee, Asylum, and International Operations Directorate, USCIS

Forms: 1) I-589 Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal

2) I-870 Credible Fear

3) I-899 Reasonable Fear

2018 USCIS Statistical Annual Report



For the third year in a row, Venezuela was the top country of origin for received affirmative asylum applications, with 24,531 in FY 2019; followed by China (9,737), Guatemala (9,620), El Salvador (5,960), and Honduras (5,548).

Meanwhile, 149,779 defensive asylum applications were filed with the Department of Justice's immigration court system, known as the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), in FY 2019—a 30 percent increase from the 115,074 applications filed a year earlier.

### What is the asylum approval rate?

According to USCIS data, 31 percent of affirmative asylum petitions adjudicated in FY 2019 were approved, a slight increase from the 30 percent in FY 2018, but a decline from the 43 percent in FY 2016 and 37 percent in FY 2017.

The same downward trend also applies to asylum petitions handled by immigration courts. In FY 2019, 29 percent of such petitions were approved, versus 43 percent in FY 2016, 37 percent in FY 2017, and 33 percent in FY 2018.

FY 2018

### How many people receive asylum status?

In FY 2018, 38,687 individuals, including principal applicants and their spouses and/or unmarried children under age 21, were granted asylum after seeking protection upon or after arrival in the United States—a 46 percent increase from 26,509 a year earlier. An additional 6,304 individuals *outside* the United States were approved for asylum as immediate family members of principal applicants. (Note that this number reflects travel documents issued to these family members, not their arrival in the United States.)

The big increase in asylum grants was mainly driven by a spike in the number of cases granted by USCIS (rather than in the immigration courts), which rose to 25,439 in FY 2018 from 15,846 in FY 2017. This increase is largely because USCIS also increased the number of cases it adjudicated by more than 20,000. Further, in January 2018, in an attempt to reduce its backlog, USCIS started adjudicating asylum applications on a last-in, first-out basis. Applicants who know that their cases are likely to be adjudicated in weeks or months rather than years are less likely to submit non-meritorious cases.

China was the top country of origin for those receiving asylum, with 6,905 persons (or 18 percent of total asylum grants). The next four largest countries of origin were Venezuela (6,087), El Salvador (2,963), Guatemala (2,358), and Honduras (2,029). Together, nationals of these five countries made up 53 percent of those receiving asylum in FY 2018.

### What is the current asylum application backlog?

Due to the large application volume and limited resources, both the affirmative and defensive asylum systems have extensive backlogs. At the end of September 2019, according to USCIS, there were 339,836 affirmative cases pending; EOIR reported 476,000 pending asylum cases as of October 11, 2019.

- For more information, see the **affirmative asylum quarterly reports** from USCIS, the **workload and adjudication statistics data** on asylum cases from EOIR, and the ***Refugees and Asylees Annual Flow Report*** from DHS's Office of Immigration Statistics.
- For more on the immigration court backlog and asylum share, see the MPI report, ***The U.S. Asylum System in Crisis: Charting a Way Forward***.

## Unauthorized Immigrants

### How many unauthorized immigrants are in the United States?

The Migration Policy Institute (MPI) estimated 11.3 million unauthorized immigrants resided in the United States in 2016. About half of all unauthorized immigrants resided in three states: California (27 percent), Texas (14 percent), and New York (8 percent). The vast majority (82



## Appendix A

FY 2019

FY2019 USCIS Domestic Performance Data							
Form Number and Description		Receipts	Completions	Net Backlog End of FY18	Net Backlog End of FY19	Change in Backlog (FY18 to FY19)	Net Cycle Time End of FY19 (in months)
Sponsoring Relatives & I-130 Orphans	Immediate Relative	525,724	608,270	256,035	235,449	(20,586)	10.7
	Preference Relative	222,940	150,687	-	117,813	117,813	11.8
	<b>Total Allen Relative Petitions</b>	<b>748,664</b>	<b>758,957</b>	<b>256,035</b>	<b>353,262</b>	<b>97,227</b>	<b>11.0</b>
	I-129F Fiancée Petition	45,274	61,115	7,380	-	(7,380)	4.0
	I-600/600A Orphan Petitions	2,039	1,772	-	-	-	2.0
	I-800/800A Convention Country Adoption	5,114	4,901	-	-	-	0.8
	I-730 Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition	15,607	7,728	5,154	13,614	8,460	16.1
Resident Services	Immigrant Visas	476,300	460,817	-	12,982	12,982	0.8
	I-90 Renew / Replace Permanent Resident Card	724,565	515,256	73,640	287,003	213,363	7.7
	I-131 Reentry Permit / Refugee Travel Doc	90,448	88,765	3,045	1,554	(1,491)	3.2
	I-751 Remove Conditions on Residence	187,414	206,082	157,965	125,741	(32,224)	14.6
	I-829 Remove Conditions on Entrepreneur	3,756	1,736	6,192	7,637	1,445	36.1
	N-300 Declaration of Intent	33	19	64	70	6	40.3
	N-470 Preserve Residence	162	149	-	-	-	5.9
	N-400 Military Naturalization	3,679	4,811	2,442	1,255	(1,187)	10.4
	Other Naturalization	827,279	926,956	360,268	262,150	(98,118)	8.9
	N-644 Posthumous Naturalization	-	-	-	-	-	0.0
	N-648 Disability Exception	4,688	11,108	-	-	-	1.6
	N-336 Request for Hearing	6,118	5,833	2,303	2,792	489	11.9
	<b>Total all I-129</b>	<b>551,201</b>	<b>635,941</b>	<b>82,129</b>	<b>42,471</b>	<b>(39,659)</b>	<b>2.1</b>
	<b>Total all I-140</b>	<b>142,451</b>	<b>158,871</b>	<b>13,670</b>	<b>9,303</b>	<b>(4,367)</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Employer & Investor Services	I-129 Premium Processed	246,508	345,314	447	704	257	0.5
	Non-Immigrant Petition (non Premium filed)	304,693	290,627	81,682	41,767	(39,915)	4.1
	<b>Total all I-129</b>	<b>551,201</b>	<b>635,941</b>	<b>82,129</b>	<b>42,471</b>	<b>(39,659)</b>	<b>2.1</b>
	<b>Total all I-140</b>	<b>142,451</b>	<b>158,871</b>	<b>13,670</b>	<b>9,303</b>	<b>(4,367)</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Nonimmigrant Services	I-360 Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant	40,208	40,946	36,760	34,415	(2,345)	15.9
	I-526 Petition by Entrepreneur	4,194	4,673	12,626	2,931	(9,695)	12.5
	I-924 Regional Center Application	79	197	154	123	(31)	20.2
	I-102 Replacement/Initial Nonimmigrant Arrival-Departure Doc	4,978	4,935	397	491	94	3.6
Adjustment	I-539 Extend/ Change Status	221,566	230,303	39,935	44,218	4,283	4.7
	I-485 Asylum Adjustment	39,915	27,646	11,998	21,249	9,251	12.8
	Refugee adjustment	28,166	46,684	23,582	14,738	(8,844)	10.2
	Indo Chinese Adjustment	27	24	11	17	6	11.0
	Cuban Adjustment Act	16,847	39,844	25,971	6,715	(19,257)	9.4
	Employment-Based Adjustment	102,025	113,705	85,091	96,473	11,382	14.5
	Family-Based Adjustment	333,695	395,035	220,487	138,562	(81,925)	9.4
	All Other Adjustment of Status	28,264	29,969	20,368	17,406	(2,962)	11.3
	Subtotal I-485 Regular Cases	480,831	578,553	351,917	259,156	(92,761)	10.9
	<b>Total Adjustment Cases</b>	<b>548,939</b>	<b>652,907</b>	<b>387,508</b>	<b>295,160</b>	<b>(92,348)</b>	<b>X</b>
	I-131 Advance Parole	403,067	374,956	18,791	48,099	29,308	4.5
	I-131 Parole in Place	7,388	6,702	1,881	-	(1,881)	1.6
	EOIR adjustment processing	55,916	55,551	58,771	6,334	(52,437)	3.4
	<b>Total I-131</b>	<b>403,067</b>	<b>374,956</b>	<b>18,791</b>	<b>48,099</b>	<b>29,308</b>	<b>4.5</b>
EAD Transitional Services	I-765 All Other Employment Authorization Document	1,757,003	1,733,833	197,545	155,405	(42,140)	4.1
	I-589 Asylum	82,807	72,287	273,989	301,641	27,652	36.7
	I-821 Temporary Protected Status	5,585	37,093	6,690	5,707	(983)	13.1
	I-881 NACARA 203 Application	-	-	119	-	(119)	0.0
	I-867 Credible Fear Referral	105,439	102,258	-	2,280	2,280	0.0
	I-899 Reasonable Fear	13,197	11,774	-	-	-	0.0
	I687/690/695/698/700 Legalization/ SAW	37	98	217	273	56	47.0
	I-817 Family Unity	340	687	269	11	(258)	6.2
	I-914 T Nonimmigrant Status	2,287	1,585	2,251	2,940	689	17.9
	I-918 U Nonimmigrant Status	48,027	23,264	191,562	204,671	13,109	46.1
	I-192 Waiver filed with I-918	34,295	-	-	-	-	50.5
	I-929 Qualifying Family Members of U Nonimmigrants	1,078	1,342	838	488	(350)	9.4
	N600/600K Application for Citizenship	57,341	64,575	17,030	12,417	(4,613)	7.6
	I-824 Action on Approved Application or Petition	10,498	10,392	4,290	4,179	(111)	7.8
Other Services	I-905 Permission to Issue Health Care Certification	-	-	-	-	-	X
	N-565 Replace Certificate	27,800	26,121	-	-	-	2.9
	I-601A Provisional Waiver	52,506	49,419	23,717	28,188	4,471	9.4
	Waivers (Excluding I-601A)	72,179	57,589	169,593	181,035	11,442	33.0
	I-910 Application for Civil Surgeon	465	647	-	-	-	1.9
	I-290B Appeal	9,069	3,056	-	-	-	3.6
	I-290B Motion to Reopen	22,645	26,226	-	-	-	6.2
	<b>Total I-290B</b>	<b>31,714</b>	<b>29,282</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>Total I-821D DACA</b>	<b>384,886</b>	<b>389,731</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1.3</b>
	<b>Total I-821D DACA</b>	<b>386,467</b>	<b>393,159</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>1.4</b>
	I-765 Employment Authorization Document DACA	389,545	397,694	-	-	-	1.1
	I-131 DACA DACA Travel Doc	-	1	38	9	(29)	19.8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8,133,728</b>	<b>8,205,805</b>	<b>2,415,573</b>	<b>2,451,655</b>	<b>36,082</b>	<b>-</b>

## Table Key:

- Represents zero or rounds to 0.0.

X Not applicable

## Notes:

1) I-485 Regular is based on the following form types: Cuban, Employment, Family, and All Other Adjustment of Status cases. N-400 military natz pending, net cycle time and backlog data include International Operations (IO) data.

## Sources:

1) September 2019 National Performance Report published 11/1/2019